

VERSION TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Please amend claims 2, 6 and 12 as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) The negative active material slurry composition of claim 6 wherein the transition metal is selected from the group consisting of Mn, Ni, Fe, Cr, Co, Cu and Mo, the alkaline earth metal is selected from the group consisting of Ca and Mg, and the semi-metal is selected from the group consisting of B, Al, Ga, Si and Sn.

6. (Three Times Amended) A negative active material slurry for a rechargeable lithium battery comprising a mixture of a carbonaceous negative active material and a compound in an organic solvent, the compound being selected from the group consisting of nitride compounds, [~~sulfide compounds,~~] chloride compounds and fluoride compounds, wherein the compound further comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition metals, alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals and semi-metals, wherein the amount of the compound is 0.05 to 30 wt %.

12. (Three Times Amended) A method of manufacturing a negative electrode for a rechargeable lithium battery comprising:

mixing a carbonaceous negative active material with a compound to form a mixture, the compound being selected from the group consisting of nitride compounds, [~~sulfide compounds,~~] chloride compounds and fluoride compounds, wherein the compound further comprises at least one element selected from the group consisting of transition metals, alkaline metals, alkaline earth metals and semi-metals, wherein the amount of the compound is 0.05 to 30 wt %;

adding an organic solvent to the mixture;

coating the resulting mixture on a current collector; and

drying the coated current collector and pressing the dried current collector.